

ANTARCTIC TREATY
XVIII th CONSULTATIVE MEETING

TRAITÉ SUR L'ANTARCTIQUE
XVIII ème RÉUNION CONSULTATIVE



KYOTO
11-22 April 1994

TRATADO ANTARTICO
XVIII REUNION CONSULTIVA

ДОГОВОР ОБ АНТАРКТИКЕ
XVIII КОНСУЛЬТАТИВНОЕ СОВЕЩАНИЕ

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IAATO REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR XVIII ATCM-KYOTO

(Submitted by IAATO)



IAATO REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR XVIII ATCM-Kyoto

The International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) is pleased to present a report of its activities for the XVIII ATCM-Kyoto, April 1994.

At present 12 companies are members of IAATO: 9 are U.S.-based, 1 is Canadian (with a U.S. sales office), and 2 are German. Other companies have applied or have inquired about membership, and are expected to become members prior to the beginning of the 1994-95 summer season in Antarctica. A list of member companies is at the end of this report.

IAATO's members strongly believe that the ultimate protection and conservation of Antarctica will largely depend on sound policy to which all Treaty nations adhere. In order to achieve the highest quality of environmental practices among tour operators, IAATO invites new operators to become members and thus adopt an industry-generated Code of Conduct (Visitor and Tour Operator Guidelines) so that all are conducting tourism in an equivalent and environmentally responsible manner. A copy of the IAATO Bylaws, Article II. Objectives, is given at the end of this report.

During the last two austral summer seasons, tourism was carried out by the widest range of vessels used to date, including private yachts, ice-strengthened expedition ships, non-strengthened cruise ships, and icebreakers. Airborne tourism has

only slightly added to the total counts of tourists--more than 90 percent of tourists have visited Antarctica by ship. Although tourism has grown from year to year, especially since 1986, in the 35 years since tourists first visited Antarctica, the cumulative total number is still less than the number of tourists who have -- in one year!-- visited the Galapagos Islands, considered to be one of the most fragile and sensitive ecosystems in the world.

The total annual number of tourists (6,500 to 7,000) that have visited Antarctica recently is comparable to the total number of all scientists and support staff at all stations and field camps in summer. Major differences, however, between human presence of tourists and that of science programs is that (1) tourism operates only in the 4-month summer period, and (2) there are no shore or land facilities (stations) for tourism. With the exception of the IAATO member company that operates airborne tourism, involving perhaps a total of 125 individuals at various times and operating from a temporary summer camp in the interior, nearly all of the annual tourist population is ship-based--that is, the ship is the "hotel," or "station," and there is no permanent land facility. Another way of stating this is that the "residence time" of tourists actually setting foot on land is less than 1% of that of all others (i.e. science programs) on the continent.

In addition to publicizing IAATO-generated Guidelines of Conduct for passengers and tour operators, IAATO has also prepared a list of pertinent contact information for each ship operated by IAATO members in Antarctica. By distributing the list among members and encouraging co-operation among operators, ship operators are able to communicate while in the field, thereby ensuring that itineraries and shore visits can be planned without encountering other ships, or overburdening the carrying capacity of a single site. Members pledge that not more than 100

individuals be placed ashore at any one time. The contact information is also vital in the event of emergencies. This "Ship Call Data" Form for the 1993-94 season is included at the end of this report.

IAATO hopes that its voluntary Guidelines will be replaced by a comparable version as a result of the XVIII ATCM-Kyoto. The new version would be adopted for future use by IAATO members.

Within the last year Quark Expeditions and Adventure Network International (both members of IAATO) produced an Environmental Audit of their operations, presented at the XVIII ATCM-Kyoto as Information Papers 13 and 23, respectively. These evaluations were produced voluntarily by the companies as a means of assessing operations, and determining whether any potential environmental problems might be revealed, and corrective measures undertaken. This precedent in the industry has provided a stimulus for all IAATO members to have independent, unbiased audits and assessments to be conducted. In addition, this introspective exercise will provide valuable experience to be used in the anticipation of environmental evaluations that may be required by parties as a result of the 1991 Environmental Protocol.

DATA GATHERING AND STATISTICS

In order to document tourism activities, and numbers of tourists and trends, an appropriate data base must be developed. A number of formats have been used in the last few years, and others may result from ratification of the Protocol. A draft example of a form which provides details of site visits and an individual tour is shown at the end of this report. This version is still in draft form (and therefore unofficial), and is a result of efforts by the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP), in concert with IAATO, to provide a

standard format for reporting of tourist and expeditionary travel in Antarctica. A comparable version in final form is expected to be in use for the 1994-95 summer season. These standard formats will be valuable in analyzing tourism in the Antarctic.

Plans for establishing a central clearing house to receive and distribute such information is under discussion.

ANCILLARY BENEFITS OF TOURISM

1. For many years, national ATP programs have availed themselves of tour ships to transport field personnel and equipment to various locations in Antarctica, on a space-available basis on the ships. All involved in this procedure benefit, inasmuch as the scientists often present lectures to passengers on the ships as part of the on board educational programs.
2. Several instances arose recently (1992-93 season) in which a Russian icebreaker, chartered for tourist cruises, cleared harbors of sea ice adjacent to several stations along the coast of East Antarctica, thus providing access for supply ships expected shortly after.
3. Beginning in the 1994-95 season, tour ships will participate in a program of Volunteer Observing Ships Scheme for meteorological and related data, a proposal raised by the WMO Representative at the XVIII ATCM-Kyoto (Information Paper 25). Tour ships will assist in this program by recording synoptic measurements of air and sea temperatures, wind speed, barometric pressure, sea state, ice conditions, etc., and relaying the data to a central office for general availability. Tour ships often include unusual and remote locations and routes in their itineraries, many of them not traveled by ATP ships, and the resulting information from the Voluntary Observing Ships Scheme

will be of great benefit to a better understanding of Antarctic weather systems, as well as providing immediate information for ATP and other ships in routine transport.

REFERENCE VOLUME ON 'ANTARCTIC TOURISM'

Tour operators are pleased to see a recently published reference volume on "Antarctic Tourism," published by Pergamon Press in its "Annals of Tourism Research," as vol. 21, no. 2, 1994. The volume consists of a collection of 12 chapters by specialists in Antarctic tourism, plus two short research notes. This publication provides a state-of-the-art document on tourism, and includes a wealth of information on various aspects of the industry, including visits to stations, and sub-Antarctic islands.

HISTORY AND FUTURE OF IAATO

In 1991, the six active ship tour operators, plus Adventure Network International, founded IAATO as a means of pooling resources and promoting thoughtful legislation that is compatible with the responsible tourism that tour operators have exhibited in their history. Members pledge to abide by the U.S. Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, or its equivalent in the newly signed 1991 Environmental Protocol and Annexes, and to adhere to the industry-generated Guidelines of Conduct for Antarctica Visitors and Tour Operators. In its short history, IAATO has provided sound environmental guidance for non-ATP sponsored visitors to Antarctica, and has enjoyed a good relationship with science programs. As the IAATO Objectives illustrate (below), it is hoped that this relationship will continue and Antarctica will remain as a pristine continent for all to enjoy.

IAATO Member Companies

Table IAATO Member Companies

IAATO Office of the Secretariat c/o 11417 S.E. 215th Street Kent WA 98031, USA	Mountain Travel·Sobek 6420 Fairmount Avenue El Cerrito CA 94530, USA
IAATO Spokesperson c/o 1 Jameson Point Road Rockland ME 04841, USA	Orient Lines, Inc. 1510 S.E. 17th Street Fort Lauderdale FL 33316, USA
Abercrombie & Kent/ Explorer Shipping Corporation 1520 Kensington Road Oak Brook IL 60521, USA	Quark Expeditions 980 Post Road Darien CT 06820, USA
Adventure Network International 980 Post Road Darien CT 06820, USA	Society Expeditions 2001 Western Avenue, Suite 710 Seattle, WA 98121, USA
Clipper Cruise Line 7711 Bonhomme Avenue St. Louis MO 63105, USA	TransOcean Tours Bredenstrasse 11 2800 Bremen 1, Germany
Hanseatic Cruises GmbH Nagelsweg 55 20097 Hamburg, Germany	Travel Dynamics, Inc. 132 East 70th Street New York, NY 10021, USA
Lindblad Tourism Development 25 Sylvan Road S., Suite E Westport CT 06880, USA	Zegrahm Expeditions 1414 Dexter Avenue, Suite 327 Seattle WA 98109, USA

Table The Bylaws of the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO)



Article I. Foundation, Name, Registration, Headquarters

- Section A. The association was founded in 1991 by seven Antarctica tour operators: Adventure Network International, Mountain Travel Sobek, Paquet/Ocean Cruise Lines, Salen Lindblad Cruising, Society Expeditions, Travel Dynamics, and Zegrahm Expeditions.
- Section B. The name of the association is *International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators*. The abbreviated name "IAATO" will henceforth be used in these bylaws.
- Section C. IAATO is registered in Olympia, in the State of Washington, USA.
- Section D. IAATO's headquarters are currently located in Kent, in the State of Washington [11417 S.E. 215th Street, Kent WA 98031, USA]. There are no affiliated chapters at present but, being an international association, it is not excluded that foreign chapters may be established in the future.

Article II. Objectives

- Section A. To represent the ship and airborne tour operators and charter companies providing Antarctic travel opportunities, to the Antarctic Treaty Organization, member countries and the public at large.
- Section B. To advocate, promote and practice safe and environmentally responsible, private sector travel programs, including tourism, to Antarctica.
- Section C. To develop, and encourage international acceptance of:
- Guidelines of Conduct for Tour Operators
 - Guidelines of Conduct for Visitors
 - Certification/Accreditation for field personnel
 - Education programs linked to the certification program.
- Section D. To operate within the parameters of the Antarctic Treaty and the Environmental Protocol with Annexes, MARPOL, SOLAS and similar international agreements, as amended.
- Section E. To foster cooperation between tour operators in the coordination of their itineraries so that overlapping site visits are avoided.
- Section F. To provide a forum for the international, private sector travel industry involved in Antarctica to share expertise and opinions among members themselves and with prospective members.
- Section G. To enhance public awareness and concern for the conservation of the Antarctic environment and ecosystem, and to better inform media, governments, politicians and environmental organizations about private sector travel to that region.
- Section H. To foster cooperation between private sector visitors and the international scientific community active in Antarctica.
- Section I. To support science in Antarctica through cooperation with Antarctic National Programs and to provide logistical support for science.
- Section J. To create ambassadors for the continued protection of Antarctica through offering the opportunity to experience this continent first hand.

SHIP CALL DATA, 1993-94

Vessel/Company	Call Sign	Telex	Fax	Phone	Captain	Cruise Director	Dates O/B	Expedition Leader	Dates O/B
Akademik Sergey Vavilov/Quark	UKOS	40507	none	40507	Capt. Kalishnikov	none	none	Mike Messick Greg Mortimer	29Dec-27Jan 27Jan-04Mar
Akademik Ioffe/Blyth & Co.	UKLP	1400655	1400655	1400655	Nikolay Apekhtin	Patrick Shaw	tba	Brad Rees	04Dec-20Mar
Bremen/Hanseatic Cruises	C6JC3	1103404	1103405	1103404	Heinz Aye	Marja Karwinski	23Dec-13Feb	Cecilia Unger	23Dec-13Feb
Columbus Caravelle/Transocean	C6KP5	1305133	1305471	1305133	Yevgeniy Balashov	Sonja Weidhase Beatrice Giese Sonja Weidhase	18Nov-06Jan 06Jan-01Feb 01Feb-15Feb	Iris Figge tba	18Nov-???
Explorer/A&K, Explorer Shipping	ELJD8	1241223	1241223	1241223	Uli Demel 10-21 Nov Leif Skog 21Nov - 07Mar	Doris Martin Micheline Place tba	10Nov-04Jan 04Jan-17Feb 17Feb-07Mar	Matt Drennan Scott Edgerton	10Nov-15Jan 15Jan-07Mar
Hanseatic/Hanseatic Cruises	C6KA9	1103725	1103726 1103727	1103730 1103725	Hartwig von Harling	Peter Hagman Mr. Ellinger tba Werner Stambach	19Dec-05 Jan 05Jan-16Jan 16Jan-27Jan 27Jan-26Feb	David Fletcher Bärbel Krämer Gunter Schütze	19Dec - 05Jan 05Jan-27Jan 27Jan-26Feb
Kapitan Khlebnikov/Quark	UTSU	1400676	1400676	1400676	Viktor Vasilyev	none	none	Mike Messick tba Tom Schornak Darrel Schoeling	30Nov-22Dec 22Dec-02Jan 06Jan-23Jan 23Jan-18Feb
Marco Polo/Orient Lines	C6JZ7	1306215	1306216	6308693 10 6308693 11 6308693 12 6308693 13	Erie Bjurstedt Peter Letzen 07Dec-19Feb	David Lawton	07Dec-19Feb	Lars-Eric Lindblad	07Dec-19Feb
Professor Molchanov/Mtn Travel	UUQR	492621155	none	none	Gennady Ussopov	none	none	Chuck Cross David De Brosse Chuck Cross	06Dec-13Jan 14Jan-22Feb 23Feb-07Mar
Saga/Jord/Cunard		1104115	1104115	1104115					
World Discoverer/Clipper Cruises	ELDUB	1242744	1242744	1242744	Ralf Zander 10 Nov - 20 Jan Karl-Ulrich Lampe 20 Jan - 11 Mar	John Thiede Kirk Newman	10 Nov-20 Jan 20 Jan-11 Mar	Jack Grove Pete Oxford Mike Messick Taylor Ricketts	10 Nov - 29 Nov 29 Nov - 06 Feb 06 Feb - 22 Feb 22 Feb - 11 Mar
Polar Duke/USAP	LACS4		1312351	1312305					
Nathaniel B. Palmer/USAP		1512563	1512564	1512563					

TOUR EXPEDITION REPORT

Tour Expedition Details (additional information on reverse)

Port of embarkation:	Date:
Port of disembarkation	Date:
Cruise no.:	Total number of passengers:

Tour Operator Details

Company name:	Contact:
Company address:	Vessel Owner? Vessel Charterer? Vessel Sub-charterer?
International phone:	
International fax:	
Length of Antarctic experience:	
Expedition Leader name(s):	Length of Antarctic experience:
Total number of expedition staff ¹ :	Avg. length of Antarctic experience:

Vessel Details

Vessel name:	
Port of registry:	
Captain's name:	Length of Antarctic experience:
Total number of crew ² :	

International Observers

Name:	Name:
Affiliation(s):	Affiliation(s):
Address:	Address:
International phone:	International phone:
International fax:	International fax:

Please return completed forms to:

Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP)
2000 Florida Avenue N.W., Washington D.C. 20009, USA
Phone: +1-202-9393218 Fax: +1-202-3280566

TOUR EXPEDITION REPORT

Tour Expedition Details

KEY: zodiac landing [Z] -- helo landing [H] -- zodiac cruising [C] -- flightseeing [F]

Date	Visitor Site	Total # per activity: (Note KEY letters)			Elapsed Time of visit	Remarks
		Pax #	Staff ¹ #	Crew ² #		

¹ Staff means:
Expedition personnel, naturalists, lecturers and zodiac drivers
(includes crew members serving as zodiac drivers);

² Crew means:
Ship's officers, crew, and hotel/ restaurant staff
(excluding crew serving as zodiac drivers).

Expedition Leader name

Expedition Leader signature

Captain name

Captain signature

SITE VISIT REPORT

Location Details

Visit Date:

Location Name:

Location Coordinates (lat/long):

Site Visit Details

Conditions: weather:

wind force (knots):

temperature (C° or F°):

direction:

Conditions: sea:

ice, % coverage:

impact of tide:

temperature (C° or F°):

current: swell:

Mode of transport

of trips to/from

Distance

to/from site:

site:

vessel/shore:

Time first passengers ashore:

Time last passengers departed:

Conditions: landings:

sand beach

gravel

stern first

dry

(underline)

pebble

mud

alongside/berth

wet

rocks

ice

heavy swell

Obstacles?

Special cautions?

Conditions: walking:

Distance/duration to main places of interest:

easy

difficult

Wildlife/features observed:

(approx. numbers if possible)

Observations of environmental effects at site

(wildlife disturbance, spillages, damage to soils/plants, report of incidents, potential hazards to visitors):

SITE VISIT REPORT

Location Details

Sketch map of landing site, showing:

- anchorage location
- landing point(s)
- land/sea movements - routes
- prominent geographical features
(peak, coast, rookery, hut, etc.)

(give coordinates where possible, preferably using vessel GPS)

TOUR EXPEDITION REPORT

Tour Expedition Details (additional information on reverse)

Port of embarkation:	Date:
Port of disembarkation	Date:
Cruise no.:	Total number of passengers:

Tour Operator Details

Company name:	Contact:
Company address:	Vessel Owner? Vessel Charterer? Vessel Sub-charterer?
International phone:	
International fax:	
Length of Antarctic experience:	
Expedition Leader name(s):	Length of Antarctic experience:
Total number of expedition staff ¹ :	Avg. length of Antarctic experience:

Vessel Details

Vessel name:	
Port of registry:	
Captain's name:	Length of Antarctic experience:
Total number of crew ² :	

International Observers

Name:	Name:
Affiliation(s):	Affiliation(s):
Address:	Address:
International phone:	International phone:
International fax:	International fax:

Please return completed forms to:

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Ship's officers, crew, and hotel/restaurant staff
(excluding crew serving as zodiac drivers).

Expedition Leader name

Captain name

Expedition Leader signature

Captain signature

SITE VISIT REPORT

Location Details

Visit Date:

Location Name:
Location Coordinates (lat/long):

Site Visit Details

Conditions: weather:	wind force (knots):			
temperature (C° or F°):	direction:			
Conditions: sea:	ice, % coverage:	impact of tide:		
temperature (C° or F°):				
current:	swell:			
Mode of transport to/from site:	# of trips to/from site:	Distance vessel/shore:		
Time first passengers ashore:	Time last passengers departed:			
Conditions: landings: (underline)	sand beach pebble rocks	gravel mud ice	stern first alongside/berth	dry wet heavy swell
Obstacles?				
Special cautions?				
Conditions: walking:	Distance/duration to main places of interest:			
easy	difficult			
Wildlife/features observed: (approx. numbers if possible)				
Observations of environmental effects at site (wildlife disturbance, spillages, damage to soils/plants, report of incidents, potential hazards to visitors):				

SITE VISIT REPORT

Location Details

Sketch map of landing site, showing:

- anchorage location
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(peak, coast, rookery, hut, etc.)

(give coordinates where possible, preferably using vessel GPS)